

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ACCRA 04464 131534Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CU-02 AID-05 /088 W
-----131712Z 050106 /43

R 131056Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8523
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 4464

E. O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: PINS, PGOV, GH
UNIVERSITIES REOPEN BUT STUDENTS MAY NOT RETURN

LONDON FOR SEITZ

REF: ACCRA 4435

1. ON JUNE 9 HEAD OF STATE ACHEAMPONG ANNOUNCED
REOPENING OF UNIVERSITIES (CLOSED MAY 13 IN THE WAKE
OF STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS) OSTENSIBLY AS A RESULT
OF APPEALS FROM THE NATIONAL HOUSE OF CHIEFS AND FROM
CHURCHMEN AND UNIVERSITY OFFICERS. COUNCIL
OF UNIVERSITY OF GHANA ALSO MET JUNE 9 TO DISCUSS
PLANS TO HOLD EXAMINATIONS IN JUNE AND
JULY.

2. ALTHOUGH DAILY GRAPHIC ASSERTED LECTURES WOULD
RESUME JUNE 13 AND THAT THE MAJORITY OF STUDENTS
WERE BACK ON CAMPUS GHANAIAI TIMES REPORTED (MORE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ACCRA 04464 131534Z

ACCURATELY WE BELIEVE) THAT AS OF JUNE 12 VERY FEW
STUDENTS WERE TO BE SEEN ON CAMPUS IN ACCRA (LEGON)
KUMASI OR CAPE COAST. TIMES QUOTED ONE STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVE AS ATTRIBUTING ABSENCE OF STUDENTS TO
TRANSPORTATION DIFFICULTIES; HE EXPRESSED HOPE,
ACCORDING TO PAPER, THAT LECTURES MIGHT RESUME BY
JUNE 16-17 WHEN LIFE AT CAMPUS WOULD HAVE "RETURNED

TO NORMAL."

3. COMMENT: ONLY HANDFULS OF STUDENTS WERE IN SIGHT AT UNIVERSITY OF GHANA (LEGON) EVENING JUNE 12. WE UNDERSTAND THAT NATIONAL UNION OF GHANA STUDENTS (NUGS) LEADERS ARE TO MEET IN KUMASI JUNE 13 TO DECIDE ON NEXT STEPS. THERE IS SOME DOUBT WHETHER CLASSES OR EXAMINATIONS WILL IN FACT RESUME IN NEAR FUTURE. SINCE NUGS AND OTHERS MAY DECIDE TO STAND BY DEMANDS THAT ACHEAMPONG STEP DOWN OR AGREE TO A SPEEDY TRANSITION TO CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT. WE HAVE ALSO HEARD THAT SOME STUDENTS WHO ARE BACK ON CAMPUS ARE POSTING ANTI-SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL STATEMENTS.

4. IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, GHANA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION REPORTEDLY DECIDED ON JUNE 9 TO CALL OFF ITS THREE DAY STRIKE FOLLOWING REOPENING OF UNIVERSITIES. MEDICAL ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT APPEALED TO ALL DOCTORS TO RESUME DUTY, ACCORDING TO GHANA NEWS AGENCY REPORT, BUT WE SUSPECT DOCTORS MAY CONTINUE TO BACK STUDENTS, IF LATTER REFUSE TO GO BACK TO UNIVERSITIES.

5. ALTHOUGH PRESS HAILED ACHEAMPONG'S DECISION TO REOPEN UNIVERSITIES AS A STATESMAN-LIKE AND MAGNANIMOUS STROKE, WE BELIEVE STUDENTS WON THIS ROUND. ACHEAMPONG HAD THREATENED TO PUT THEM TO WORK IN THE FIELDS: PRIVATELY, HE TALKED OF KEEPING UNIVERSITIES CLOSED FOR THREE YEARS. FORCED BY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ACCRA 04464 131534Z

PRESSURE FROM THE CHIEFS AND PUBLIC TO YIELD, HE WILL NOT FIND, WE THINK, THAT STUDENTS WILL NOW ROLL OVER AND PLAY DEAD.
SMITH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEDICAL PERSONNEL, OPENING OF OFFICES, UNIVERSITIES, BOYCOTTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ACCRA04464
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770210-0591
Format: TEL
From: ACCRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770665/aaaaceqa.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2e414f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ACCRA 4435
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2181828
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNIVERSITIES REOPEN BUT STUDENTS MAY NOT RETURN
TAGS: PINS, PGOV, SEDU, GH, (ACHEAMPONG, IGNATIUS KUTU)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2e414f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009